



# MEMORANDUM

Harvey Ruvin  
Clerk of the Circuit and County Courts  
Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners  
Miami-Dade County, Florida  
www.miami-dadeclerk.com  
(305) 375-5126  
(305) 375-2484 (FAX)

B&F

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6(A)

TO: Honorable Chairperson,  
Jimmy Morales  
and Members of the  
Budget and Finance  
Committee

DATE: January 15, 2004

FROM: *Kay M. Sullivan*  
Kay M. Sullivan, Director  
Clerk of the Board

SUBJECT: Approval of Committee Minutes

Attached is the Clerk's Summary of Minutes for the following Budget and Finance Committee meeting for placement on an upcoming committee agenda for approval:

August 12, 2003

KS/cds

Attachment(s)

c: Diane Del Carpio, Assistant Director  
Doris Dickens, Senior Commission Reporter  
Clara Pimentel, Agenda Specialist

03 OCT 24 PM 4:30  
AGENDA



Stephen P. Clark  
Government Center  
111 N.W. 1st Street  
Miami, FL 33128

# CLERK'S SUMMARY OF Meeting Minutes Budget and Finance Committee

Jimmy L. Morales (7), Chairperson; Katy Sorenson (8), Vice Chairperson;  
Commissioners Jose "Pepe" Diaz (12), Sally A. Heyman (4), Dennis C. Moss (9), and  
Rebeca Sosa (6)

Tuesday, August 12, 2003

6:30 PM

Joseph Caleb Center

**Members Present:** Jimmy L. Morales.

**Members Absent:** Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Sally A. Heyman, Dennis C. Moss, Katy Sorenson, Rebeca Sosa.

**Members Late:** None.

**Members Excused:** None.

## 1A ROLL CALL

**Report:** *In addition to the Committee Chairperson, the following staff members were present: Mr. Ray Baker, Senior Budget Analyst, Office of Management and Budget; Ms. Corinne Brody, Special Assistant for Strategic Management Initiatives, County Managers Office; Ms. Kim Johnson, Budget Analyst, Office of Management and Budget; Ms. Sylvia Mora-Ona, Assistant Director, Branch Services and Youth Services, Miami-Dade Library; Dr. David Morris, Director, Office of Management and Budget; Ms. Kimberly Pate, Budget Analyst, Office of Management and Budget; Mr. Michael Spring, Director, Cultural Affairs and Deputy Clerk, Cheryl Shamsid-Deen.*

## 1B WELCOME

**Report:** *Chairperson Morales called the meeting to order at 6:41 p.m. He thanked, the citizens that were present for attending today's meeting.*

## 1C

**INTRODUCTIONS AND  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**Report:** *Chairperson Morales stated today's meeting was the fourth of six public meetings the Budget and Finance Committee would bring to the community. He stated that pursuant to the Florida Statutes, the county was required to hold two public hearings on the budget that were scheduled for September 3, 2003, and September 17, 2003, at 5:00 p.m., in Miami-Dade County Hall, and would be broadcast on television. Chairperson Morales stated the intent of today's meeting was to make a presentation on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2003-04. He stated that the budget information was available online at [MiamiDade.gov](http://MiamiDade.gov) for citizens that had access to computers.*

*Chairperson Morales acknowledged the presence of Community Council No. 7 members, Wilbert Laurent, Michael Brescher, and Timothy Keegan; Community Council No. 8 member, Bertha Carswell; staff of Commissioner Barbara Carey-Shuler: Myrna Harrison, Chief of Staff; Gerard Philippeaux, Eli Tourgeman, Kavin Davis, and Marie Russell; staff of Commissioner Bruno Barreiro: Betty Gutierrez, and staff of Chairperson Morales: Patricia Keon, Budget Analyst; and Will Johnson at today's meeting. Additionally, Chairperson Morales stated there were numerous county staff present to respond to questions.*

**2 PUBLIC HEARING**

## 2A 032204 Report

ORAL PRESENTATION - PROPOSED FY 2003-2004  
BUDGET AND MULTI-YEAR CAPITAL PLAN (Office of  
Management and Budget)

**Report:** *Mr. Ray Baker, Senior Budget Analyst, Office of Management and Budget, gave a Powerpoint overview entitled "FY 2003-04 Proposed Budget and Multi-Year Capital Plan". He stated that next fiscal year's budget would begin October 1, 2003, through September 30, 2004. Mr. Baker stated that the proposed budget generally maintained current levels of county services, which was prepared with a results oriented approach to management, financial stability and customer service, and used technology as a tool based on credible business decisions.*

*Mr. Baker stated that the total budget for FY 2003-04 was \$5.834 billion, which was a 3 percent increase from the previous year. He noted a major portion of the increase in the Operating Budget was in Transit as a result of the half-penny sales tax passed by the electorate, and in the Police Department budget and the Corrections and Rehabilitation Department budget, to maintain current service levels and other inflationary expenses. He stated that 53 percent of the Capital Budget was for transportation, which included the Aviation, Seaport, and Transit departments. He commented that the Transit Department was participating in numerous Capital Projects resulting from the half-penny sales tax.*

*Chairperson Morales stated that homeowners with Homestead Exemption should not have an increase in the taxable value of their home of more than 2.4 percent. He advised that if a homeowner's property tax increase was higher than 2.4 percent, the homeowner should address this matter at their district commissioner's office or the Miami-Dade Property Appraiser's Office.*

*Mr. Baker reviewed the following proposed 2003-2004 budgets:*

- Countywide budget*
- UMSA budget*
- Fire District budget*
- Library District budget*
- Proprietary budget (departments that generate revenue)*

- Capital funding budget

Chairperson Morales stated because the federal government had cut funding for the Summer Youth Employment Program, the county was providing \$1 million to fund this program without increasing taxes. He asked that citizens communicate with their congressperson to garner funding for this program.

Chairperson Morales stated the countywide budget provided funding for the Healthflex program, an initiative by Mayor Alex Penelas and Chairperson Barbara Carey-Shuler, to address the issue of the uninsured worker. He stated the county, the employer, and the employee would each contribute one-third of the funding for the Healthflex program.

Chairperson Morales noted that approximately \$5 million in unallocated Quality Neighborhood Improvement Program (QNIP) funds would be placed in the proposed budget for reallocation within the 13 commission districts for infrastructure improvements. Chairperson Morales recommended that the citizens talk to their district commissioner to provide input on how these additional monies should be spent.

Chairperson Morales stated that pursuant to Florida Statutes the proposed millage rates that were approved by the County Commission could not be increased at the final budget hearing, but it was possible for the rates to be reduced.

Chairperson Morales noted that the rate increase for Solid Waste in the proposed budget was equivalent to the rate in 1991.

Mr. Baker stated that the September budget hearings would include studies and reports identifying any savings that could be used to avoid millage rate increases, or departmental fee increases.

Mr. Baker addressed the priorities of Community Council No. 7 and Community Council No. 8, which related to the following:

- Planning and Zoning
- Parks
- Infrastructure
- Police
- Team Metro
- Solid Waste

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- Library
- Economic Development

*In response to Chairperson Morales, Dr. David Morris, Director, Office of Management and Budget, stated that citizens could inquire about sidewalk improvements being made in their area through the Office of Capital Improvement. Dr. Morris advised in January 2004 information pertaining to capital improvement projects would be available on the Internet at [www.miamidade.gov](http://www.miamidade.gov) at the "My Neighborhood" portal.*

*Chairperson Morales stated that the half-penny sales tax referendum allowed the transit department to hire approximately 1,000 employees as bus drivers and bus mechanics and he had established an initiative for an apprenticeship program for bus mechanics that would train local residents to repair county buses, rather than filling these positions with persons from outside the county. Chairperson Morales asked that persons interested in these job opportunities contact the county, his office, their district commissioner, the county's Employee Relations Department, Transit, or South Florida Workforce. He noted it was the intent of this initiative that jobs created by the citizens' tax dollars stay in this community.*

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**3 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**Report:** *Chairperson Morales opened the meeting for public input.*

*Chairperson Morales introduced Pastor Dawkins, who thanked him for bringing opportunities and government closer to the community.*

*Pastor Dawkins expounded on the community's after-school mandatory tutorial FCAT program at Lilly C. Evans Elementary School, which utilized recreational sports to deter youth from alternative lifestyles. He requested \$23,000 in funding to continue this program. Pastor Dawkins pledged community support of commissioners that understood the needs of the community and thanked Chairperson Morales for his willingness to listen to the concerns of the community.*

*In response to Pastor Dawkins' request, Chairperson Morales stated although he could not confirm the allocation of funds for the after-school program he assured Pastor Dawkins that he would submit a funding request at the final budget hearing. He stated as this project was in Commissioner Rolle's district; he would inform Commissioner Rolle of this initiative and seek his sponsorship.*

*The following are comments made by Pastor Dawkins and responses to his inquiries:*

- A representative from Public Works stated staff would follow-up on the need for speed bumps at N.W. 78th Street and 19th Avenue with the district commissioner of that area and Pastor Dawkins.*
- Pastor Dawkins thanked Chairperson Morales for the continuation of the Summer Youth Employment Program.*
- In connection with providing for the needs of the disabled in the community, Chairperson Morales stated the county had made a significant investment in improving Special Transportation Services (STS).*

*Dr. Morris stated that the ADA/handicap opportunities in parks often required capital improvements. He noted a report would be provided to the full Board by November pertaining to the General Obligation Bond (GOB) issue and*

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*he recommended that it include improvements to existing county facilities that would not increase operating costs, such as ADA accessibility in parks.*

*- Chairperson Morales asked that citizens communicate to their district commissioner their requests for community improvements that could be funded by the General Obligation Bond issue.*

*- Pastor Dawkins asked that the computer lab at the Gwen Cherry Park be re-visited and that the park behind Lilly C. Evans Elementary School be considered as a site for another computer lab.*

*The following responses were made to the questions raised by Mr. George Best (phonetic), private citizen:*

*- Chairperson Morales advised that assistance for business development could be provided from the Office of Community and Economic Development or the Urban Economic Task Force or the Empowerment Zone. He asked that Dr. Morris assist Mr. Best with his request regarding business development.*

*- Chairperson Morales stated that the Mom and Pop grant program was overseen by the Urban Economic Task Force and the Neighbors and Neighbors Agency and suggested Mr. Best contact Mr. Bryan Finnie regarding this program.*

*The following responses were made to the questions raised by Ms. Kathy Emery, representative of Community Council 7:*

*- Mr. Eli Tourgeman, staff member of Chairperson, Barbara Carey-Shuler, responded to concerns pertaining to QNIP 2 funding for curbs on the historic Lake Belmar Canal front.*

*- Mr. Muhammed Hasan, Chief, Traffic Engineering Division, Public Works Department, advised that the office of Capital Improvement Construction Coordination (CICC), would investigate whether or not certain curb improvements had been completed.*

*The following responses were made to the questions raised by Mr. Dennis Knowles (phonetic), private citizen:*

*- Chairperson Morales stated that the county did not prohibit the hiring of convicted felons for the*



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*bus mechanics apprenticeship program and would hire on a case-by-case basis.*

*- Chairperson Morales stated that the Free Trade of the Americas Agreement (FTAA) would be a Federal decision the United States would enter into. He stated that in November the county was participating in the FTAA Summit of Ministers that would cost the county \$8 million dollars for increased security during the event.*

*- Chairperson Morales stated that Commissioner Rolle initiated the Community Workforce Program that stipulates ten percent of the workforce for a community project would come from the community.*

*- Chairperson Morales responded to concerns raised regarding the proposal to place Interstate-395 underground and noted that although this proposal should be watched, it was not in the budget for FY 2003-2004, or a priority project in the near future.*

*The following responses were made to the questions raised by a private citizen of District 2:*

*- Chairperson Morales recommended that any concerns regarding community priorities should be brought to the attention of the appropriate district commissioner.*

*- Ms. Sylvia Mora-Ona, Assistant Director, Branch Services and Youth Services, Miami-Dade Library, stated that the Charrette of that area had investigated moving the North-Central Library, but could not find enough land for relocation. Ms. Mora-Ona stated Commissioner Rolle was committed to building a library in that area and that staff was looking for another site.*

*The following responses were made to the concerns of various citizens:*

*- Chairperson Morales suggested using the condemnation process to secure parkland was expensive. He indicated the possibility that funding for this process could be identified through the General Obligation Bond issue.*

*- Major Tyrone White, Miami-Dade Police Department, stated that the Police Department was aware of the activities in the area of N.W. 72nd Street between N.W. 7th and 15th Avenue, and that police enforcement action had been taken*

to resolve the problem.

- Chairperson Morales stated that the Department of Public Works would follow-up on the aforementioned area regarding the need for speed bumps and would communicate to Commissioner Rolle's staff that this issue was raised.

- Chairperson Morales requested that the Planning and Zoning Department have a meeting to evaluate the expansion of the N.W. 27 Avenue Transit Corridor Charrette to include the area between N.W. 79 Street and N.W. 54 Street and this would be communicated to Commissioner Rolle.

- Chairperson Morales urged citizens to address their community concerns with their district commissioner. He recommended that Commissioner Rolle be contacted regarding any concerns with the Community Workforce program and expounded on steps that had been taken in the past to address the needs of target areas. He commented on the need to determine accountability.

The following responses were made to questions raised by Mr. Steven Haygen (phonetic), private citizen of the City of Miami:

- Mr. David Cardenas, Assistant Chief, Public Works Department, Right of Way Aesthetic and Assets Management Division, explained the budgeted and proposed budget allocations, and the strategic planning of tree planting in Miami-Dade County.

- Chairperson Morales asked the Public Works staff to examine the budget for additional funding for canopy trees on the right-of-way of public roadways.

- Chairperson Morales noted that the Property Appraisal Office could provide additional assistance pertaining to real estate assessment appraisals.

In conclusion, Chairperson Morales thanked the county staff, Community Council members, commission staff, and the public at-large for an interesting session and for attending today's meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Report:** *There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.*